

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PONTA 00524 01 OF 02 080101Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 /059 W  
-----088505 080318Z /12

R 071845Z DEC 77  
FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1844  
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMCONSUL OPORTO  
COMUSFORAZ  
USCINCEUR  
CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PONTA DELGADA 0524

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PO  
SUBJECT: AZOREAN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT CRITICIZES PRIME  
MINISTER SOARES' NOVEMBER 17 MEMORANDUM

SUMMARY: AZOREAN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT ALVARO MONJARDINO HAS  
CRITICIZED STRONGLY THOSE PORTIONS OF PRIME MINISTER SOARES'  
NOVEMBER 17 MEMORANDUM CALLING FOR A NATIONAL LEVEL INTER-PARTY  
AGREEMENT ON QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONS. IN  
PARTICULAR, MONJARDINO OBJECTED TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S CALL FOR  
OPPOSITION PARTY SUPPORT FOR THE RAPID ENACTMENT OF A DEFINITIVE  
STATUTE OF AUTONOMY FOR THE AZORES AND FOR ANOTHER FORMAL  
REPUDIATION OF SEPARATISM BY THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY. WHILE THE  
POLITICALLY UNALIGNED MONJARDINO OSTENSIBLY SPOKE ONLY FOR HIMSELF,  
HIS STAND IS SUPPORTED BY THE AZOREAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT(RGA).

1. IN A PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE SOARES MEMORANDUM DECEMBER 6,  
MONJARDINO REJECTED THE PRIME MINISTER'S SUGGESTION THAT QUESTIONS  
CONCERNING REGIONAL AUTONOMY SHOULD BE DECIDED SOLELY BY THE  
POLITICAL PARTIES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. HE INSISTED THAT ANY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PONTA 00524 01 OF 02 080101Z

EVENTUAL INTER-PARTY PLATFORM AGREEMENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL  
SHOULD RESERVE TO THE PARTIES AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL THE RIGHT TO  
WORK OUT AGREEMENTS ON ESSENTIALLY REGIONAL MATTERS. MOREOVER, IN  
AN INDIRECT REFERENCE TO THE SOCIALIST PARTY'S TIGHT DOCTRINAL  
LEASH OVER ITS AZOREAN AFFILIATE, HE ARGUED THAT IT WOULD BE  
DISASTROUS FOR ANY NATIONAL PARTY TO IMPOSE ITS WILL ON ITS  
REGIONAL COUNTERPART ON ESSENTIALLY REGIONAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT THE

EXPRESSED AND CONSCIOUS ENDORSEMENT BY THE REGIONAL PARTY.

2. MONJARDINO ALSO VOICED OBJECTION TO SOARES' CALL FOR AN EXTRAPARLIAMENTARY AGREEMENT ON A TIMETABLE FOR THE RAPID ADOPTION OF A DEFINITIVE STATUTE OF AUTONOMY FOR THE REGION WHICH, HE ALLEGED, THE PRIME MINISTER SEEMED TO PLACE AS A PRECONDITION FOR THE ACCELERATION OF THE TRANSFER OF THE "PERIPHERAL SERVICES" (THOSE SERVICES CURRENTLY ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL MINISTRIES AND DEPARTMENTS) TO REGIONAL GOVERNMENT CONTROL. HE NOTED THAT THE EXISTING PROVISIONAL STATUTE OF AUTONOMY PLACED NO ENCUMBRANCE ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT, AND OBSERVED THAT THE NATION HAD ALREADY SUFFERED FROM TOO MANY LAWS ENACTED IN HASTE. WHILE CONCEDED THAT PERHAPS THE MANDATE OF THE CURRENT REGIONAL ASSEMBLY SHOULD NOT EXPIRE WITHOUT THE BODY'S VOTING ON A DEFINITIVE STATUTE, HE SUGGESTED THAT THE PROPOSED LAWS WOULD BE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PONTA 00524 02 OF 02 080257Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 /059 W

-----090772 080318Z /12

R 071845Z DEC 77  
FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1845  
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMCONSUL OPORTO  
COMUSFORAZ  
USCINCEUR  
CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PONTA DELGADA 0524

TIMED TO EMERGE TOO LATE TO BE CONSIDERED, AND ALTERED, BY THE PRESENT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

3. THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT ALSO TOOK SERIOUS EXCEPTION TO WHAT HE FELT WAS AN IMPLICIT THREAT IN THE SOARES MEMORANDUM THAT THE "END OF CENTRALIST PRACTICES" IN GENERAL SHOULD BE DEPENDENT UPON A FORMAL REPUDIATION OF SEPARATISM BY THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY. HE RECALLED THAT THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HAD ALREADY GONE ON RECORD AS OPPOSING SEPARATISM. HE SAID THAT PRESSURE TO DO SO ONCE AGAIN, WHICH SMACKED OF PRACTICES UNDER THE SALAZAR REGIME, WOULD

PROVE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO THE DESIRED AIM.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH OSTENSIBLY SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF AS A REGIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT WITH NO PARTY AFFILIATION, MONJARDINO'S VIEWS ON AUTONOMY COINCIDE IN MOST RESPECTS WITH THOSE OF RGA PRESIDENT MOTA AMARAL. HIS STATEMENT MAY EVEN HAVE BEEN COORDINATED WITH THE RGA. THE HIGHLY RESPECTED MONJARDINO APPARENTLY CHOSE TO MAKE HIS POSITION KNOWN NOW IN ORDER TO PUT WHATEVER NATIONAL GOVERNMENT THAT EMERGES FROM THE PRESENT CRISIS ON NOTICE THAT ANTIPATHY TO ANY FORMULA FOR AUTONOMY IMPOSED FROM OUTSIDE THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PONTA 00524 02 OF 02 080257Z

REGION EXTENDS BEYOND THE PSD-RULED REGIONAL GOVERNMENT.

5. RGA PRESIDENT MOTA AMARAL, LIKE MONJARDINO, STEADFASTLY OPPOSES THE DRAFTING OF A DEFINITIVE STATUTE OF AUTONOMY NOW BECAUSE HE SUSPECTS THAT THE CURRENT PS/PCP NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MAJORITY, WHICH WOULD HAVE THE FINAL SAY ON SUCH LEGISLATION, WOULD VOTE TO RESTRICT THE FAIRLY AMPLE POWERS GRANTED THE REGION UNDER THE EXISTING PROVISIONAL STATUTE. FOR BOTH MOTA AMARAL AND MONJARDINO, THE NEED IS NOT FOR A NEW STATUTE, BUT RATHER FOR THE AUTONOMY RIGHTS ATTRIBUTED IN PRINCIPLE TO THE REGION UNDER THE PROVISIONAL STATUTE TO BE RESPECTED IN PRACTICE BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. MOTA AMARAL, IN FACT, SENT TO LISBON LAST WEEK AN UNUSUALLY STRONGLY WORDED NOTE DENOUNCING THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FOR INTENTIONAL FOOT-DRAGGING IN TURNING OVER PERIPHERAL SERVICES TO THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT IN VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONAL STATUTE. MOTA AMARAL PROPOSES TO EXPLORE THE MAXIMUM THE POSSIBILITIES FOR REGIONAL AUTONOMY UNDER THE PROVISIONAL STATUTE BEFORE EVEN CONSIDERING A DEFINITIVE LAW. AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD HE RISK SUBMITTING A PROPOSED DEFINITIVE LAW FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY APPROVAL (AND MODIFICATION) UNTIL CONVINCED THAT THE BODY'S COMPOSITION AND DISPOSITION HAD BEEN ALTERED TO FAVOR THE AMPLE REGIONAL AUTONOMY HE SEEKS.

MACK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 07-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PONTA00524  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770455-0844  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PONTA DELGADA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19771283/aaaacshr.tel  
**Line Count:** 155  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 21f5150a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 328475  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AZOREAN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT CRITICIZES PRIME MINISTER SOARES' NOVEMBER 17 MEMORANDUM SUMMARY:  
AZOREAN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT ALVA  
**TAGS:** PINT, PO, (SOARES, MARIO ALBERTO NOBRE LOPES), (MONJARDINO, ALVARO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/21f5150a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009